

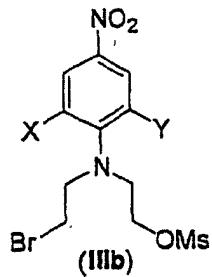
**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-2 (canceled).

3 (previously presented). 2-((2-Bromoethyl)-2-[(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]carbonyl}-4,6-dinitroanilino)ethyl methanesulfonate.

4 (previously presented). A nitroaniline-based unsymmetrical mustard represented by formula (IIIb)



wherein

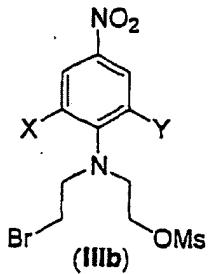
X represents one of the groups  $\text{NO}_2$ ,  $\text{CN}$ , or  $\text{SO}_2\text{R}^1$ , where  $\text{R}^1$  represents a  $\text{C}_{1-6}$ -alkyl optionally substituted with one or more hydroxy and/or one or more amino groups;

Y represents one of the groups  $\text{OR}^2$ ,  $\text{NHCOR}^2$ ,  $\text{CONHR}^2\text{CO}_2\text{R}^3$ ,

CONHR<sup>2</sup>morpholide, CONHR<sup>2</sup> other than CONH<sub>2</sub>, CONR<sup>2</sup>R<sup>3</sup> other than CONH<sub>2</sub>, CONHOR<sup>2</sup>, CONHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>2</sup>, SO<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>NHR<sup>2</sup> or SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>2</sup>R<sup>3</sup> wherein each R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> independently represent a H, C<sub>1-6</sub>- alkyl or C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkylene optionally substituted with one or more hydroxy and/or one or more amino groups; and A and B each independently represent halogen, OSO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>4</sup>, OSO<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>, OSO<sub>2</sub>NHR<sup>4</sup> or OSO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>4</sup>R<sup>5</sup>, wherein each R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> independently represent a C<sub>1-6</sub>- alkyl optionally substituted with one or more hydroxy and/or one or more amino groups; and pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives and salts thereof.

5-7 (canceled).

8 (previously presented). A method of preparing a nitroaniline-based unsymmetrical mustard represented by formula (IIIb) as claimed in claim 4



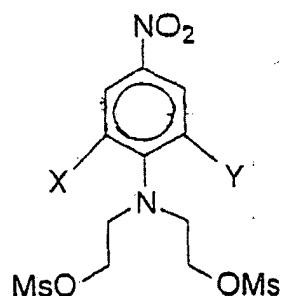
wherein

X represents one of the groups NO<sub>2</sub>, CN, or SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>1</sup>, where R<sup>1</sup> represents a C<sub>1-6</sub>-

alkyl optionally substituted with one or more hydroxy and/or one or more amino groups;

Y represents one of the groups  $OR^2$ ,  $NHCOR^2$ ,  $CONHR^2CO_2R^3$ ,  
 $CONHR^2$ morpholide,  $CONHR^2$  other than  $CONH_2$ ,  $CONR^2R^3$  other than  $CONH_2$ ,  
 $CONHOR^2$ ,  $CONHSO_2R^2$ ,  $SO_2NH_2$ ,  $SO_2NHR^2$  or  $SO_2NR^2R^3$  wherein each  $R^2$  and  $R^3$   
independently represent a H,  $C_{1-6}$ - alkyl or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkylene optionally substituted with one  
or more hydroxy and/or one or more amino groups; and A and B each independently  
represent halogen,  $OSO_2R^4$ ,  $OSO_2NH_2$ ,  $OSO_2NHR^4$  or  $OSO_2NR^4R^5$ , wherein each  $R^4$   
and  $R^5$  independently represent a  $C_{1-6}$ - alkyl optionally substituted with one or more  
hydroxy and/or one or more amino groups; and pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives  
and salts thereof;

the method comprising the step of reacting a compound of formula



with an amount of LiBr in a polar solvent to give a bromo mesylate of formula

(IIIb).

9 (previously presented). The method as claimed in claim 8 wherein the polar solvent is selected from the group consisting of acetonitrile, dimethylformamide, ethyl acetate, triethylamine, acetone and mixtures thereof.

10 (previously presented). The method as claimed in claim 8 wherein the alkali metal halide is selected from the group consisting of LiCl, LiBr, NaI and NaBr.

11 (previously presented). A compound of formula (IIIB) obtained by any one of the methods as claimed in claim 8.

12-15 (canceled).

16 (currently amended). A method of cell ablation therapy utilising at least one endogenous nitroreductase enzyme, the method comprising the step of administering a compound of Formula (IIIB) as claimed in claim 4 in a "therapeutically effective amount" to ablate tumour cells in tissue in a subject, wherein said ~~tissue expresses tumor cells~~ have regions of hypoxia and express at least one endogenous nitroreductase enzyme, to activate the compound of formula (IIIB) into an active metabolite to ablate the tumor cells.

17-18 (canceled).

19 (previously presented). A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (IIIB) as defined in claim 4 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, adjuvant, carrier, buffer or stabiliser.

20-21(cancelled).

22 (previously presented). A nitroaniline-based unsymmetrical mustard as claimed in claim 4, wherein Y is  $\text{CONHR}_2$  where  $R_2$  is  $C_1\text{-}C_6$  alkylene substituted with hydroxyl.

23 (previously presented). A nitroaniline-based unsymmetrical mustard as claimed in claim 4, wherein Y is  $\text{CONHCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ .